

RELEASE IN FULL

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**From:** Sherman, Wendy R <ShermanWR@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 24, 2012 6:43 AM  
**To:** H  
**Cc:** Burns, William J; Sullivan, Jacob J  
**Subject:** Movement perhaps

Madam Secretary,

Hopefully Bill or Jake has been able to brief you on last night's (actually early this morning's) secure call. Today, besides the fact that a sandstorm has meant a closed airport, things appear to have moved things ahead. Ashton met for less than a half hour with Jallili and then we had plenary for a bit more than two hours. Plenary punctuated by Jallili approaching me at end to say hello and have very brief sentences. Outcome is a draft press statement we have drafted that will say nuclear core, agree to continue discussions on 20% that includes our ideas and theirs, experts meeting next week and political meeting probably June 14-15. We are asking Iranians not to contradict our statement. Many issues ahead and some work needed first in our govt and then with others. Likely PD meeting with Ashton around June 11 to prepare as well. Ashton due to have bilat shortly with Jallili to see if agree on way forward. Helga already previewed with Bagheri. Could all still fall apart and press management afterwards will be difficult. Nonetheless, looks like we will move forward. If the sandstorm does not abate, likely to do GCC meeting by conference call and then to Tel Aviv tomorrow. More when can talk secure again.

Best,  
Wendy